



The Trail Blazer

OFFICIAL ORGAN METROPOLITAN HORSEMEN'S ASSOCIATION · OAKLAND, CALIF.



OCTOBER 1950

BIG PLAY DAY

OCTOBER 22

1 p. m. — Sequoia Arena — (see Page 4)

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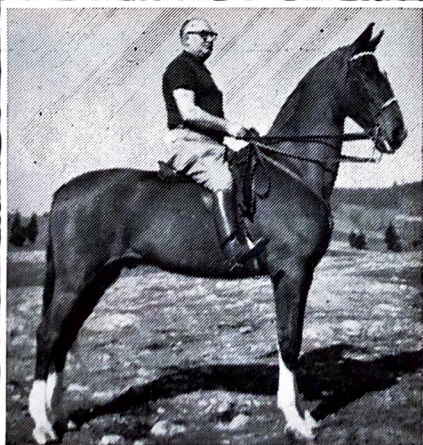
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The Trail Blazer

published monthly by the
METROPOLITAN HORSEMEN'S ASSOCIATION
Oakland, California

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M. H. A. OFFICERS — 1950

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Bill Patten	R. M. (Bud) Vogel
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NEXT BOARD MEETING

Thursday, October 5, at 8:00 p. m.
Place: Theatre of Sun Electric Corp.,
11th and Grove Streets

THE COVER

Jimmie Heal ropes a calf at the Piedmont Stables "Grandma" is the steed's name.

Thanks to Gordon Cleaver who handled the calves and to Cliff Barbera for the photography.

NOMINATIONS DUE NOW

ANY MHA MEMBER may present nominations for the 1951 Board of Directors according to the new regulations. Nominations must be mailed by October 15.

Only one person from any organized group is eligible for nomination. Following receipt of the lists, duplications will be eliminated and ballots sent out by the Election Committee.

Send YOUR list today to: Jim Myers, Chairman, Election Committee, 4848 McDonell Avenue, Oakland 19.

SEPTEMBER BOARD NOTES

Harold Cummings, Membership Chairman, reported 801 members on September 14, but is still hopeful of reaching the 1000 goal in 1950. Why not send someone a membership so they can attend the big play day and the annual dinner?

Due to the efficient work of Dave and Kay Jones, and John Thiel, the Trail Blazer is still in the profit column.

The Board voted to make \$500 available for work on trails. Maybe we can save some of the country for the horses.

Treasurer Mabel Smith reported a bank balance of \$1302.62. Some bills for ads for the Trail Blazer, and \$457.50 are still owed the Horse Show account.

NEW REGIONAL PARK?

The possibility of a new 3000 acre regional park in the Grass Valley area is being studied by the Castro Valley Horsemen's Association and the Hayward Area Chamber of Commerce.

At a recent meeting in Hayward, Richard E. Walpole, Regional Park Manager, and John A. MacDonald, District Director, outlined the steps whereby this area could be purchased from the East Bay Municipal Utility District.

The acquisition of the area would be of benefit to MHA. Grass Valley lies east and south of the Shrine Rangers' Rancho San Antonio and extends toward the Lake Chabot area.

THANKS, ALICIA COFFEY

The Editor tossed all her Trail Blazer cares on the capable, fresh-from-vacation shoulders of Assistant Ed. Alicia Coffey this month and took off for green pastures. Looking at the results, we're convinced we should have done it sooner.

While she prefers hiding behind a typewriter or a bandit's red bandana (as on Daniels' Day trail ride), Alicia's sound judgment, good ideas and enthusiasm have long been a real asset to the MHA. (And see here, Mrs. C.: leave me just enough authority this month to get this one piece into print!—K.J.)

My blushes are as red as my bandana.
A. G. C.

FUN FOR ALL AGES AT GRAHAM GYMKHANA

Hunt up your most spectacular costumes, shine up the old buggy, and join the fun at Miss Graham's Riding Stables on October 8 at 1 p. m. Charles Hall has planned the following interesting events and classes which are open to EVERYONE:

Color guards: each stable or organized group may enter 3 riders to carry colors. Color guards will take part in the Grand Entry led by the Mounted Oakland Police Patrol.

Novelty class: riders in costume!

Transportation class: open to horse-drawn vehicles representing any era from the California centennial to recent horse days.

In addition to the above there will be: two jumping classes, English and Western Pleasure classes, American Saddlebred class, Breeding class—stallions in hand. Ribbons will be awarded to the 5th place.

Entry fee for adults \$1.00; juniors 50c.

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PLAY DAY —OCTOBER 22

Everyone is expected at the big free play day at Sequoia Arena at 1 o'clock on October 22. This will be the final play day of the year.

Bud Vogel has planned plenty of events including balloon races, pole bending, relay races, flat and western saddle events. Ribbons will be awarded to third place.

Hot dogs, hamburgers, and beverages will be sold at reasonable prices, so ride up in time for lunch and get acquainted with your fellow MHA members.

HAVE FUN NO ENTRY FEES NO TICKETS

NEW CHUCK WAGON COMING

Mel Coe had tough luck a couple of months ago when his famous Chuck Wagon caught fire near San Francisco, right in the middle of a barbecue. Although considerable damage was done, the hungry hordes were fed in Mel's customary open-handed manner.

"I'm still in business, you know, and Joe Massone is building me a new restaurant-on-wheels—ready in six weeks or so."

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NEW MOUNTED UNIT

Under sponsorship of Chief Lester Divine, the newly formed Oakland Police Department Mounted Division recently staged a practice hunt for a "lost child" in the hill area. Dr. Galen H. Drury, posse president and Glenn Fisher, after a good job of tracking, found "dolly" in a deep blackberry thicket.

Members of the unit include: Dr. Galen H. Drury, Glenn Fisher, Charles Hall, Ray Haneberg, Stanley Cosca, Burton R. Thomas, Harry Peckham, F. W. McNamara, Sgt. Guy Skelton.

TROPHY WINNERS

Among the trophy winners at the Castro Valley Wranglers Club Horse Show on October 1, were the Aahmes Shrine Mounted Patrol, Footprinters, Lari-ettes, MHA Junior and Alameda County Sheriff's Posse color guards.

NOTICE TO REPORTERS

By the time you receive this issue of the Trail Blazer you should be working up your stories for the NOVEMBER issue. Send material to Kay Jones by October 10.

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SHRINE MOUNTED PATROL

Returning from a busy Labor Day weekend at Winnemucca, the unit rejoiced to learn that it had escaped the local heat wave. The three drill performances in Nevada brought gratifying invitations to return and to appear in near-by states. The group is still talking about the wonderful hospitality. Friends who joined in the trek included Frank and Marge Webben, Bill and Opal Parrish — and Bill's guitar!

During the absence of the Patrol, a grass fire threatened the clubhouse and stables on Skyline Boulevard. While Past Captain Fred Bemis arrived at the first call, the Oakland Fire Department, and the Redwood Canyon Fire Department led by Luce Norris and Hugh Lejeal, arrived on the double. Bill Patten, knowing the Ranch was left under-staffed, rushed from the Piedmont to help take horses from the barns. Stan Cosca of Skyline directed traffic like a veteran. People from Bonita Ranch, the Canyon, and the hills, offered aid. That's the heartwarming spirit of neighborliness for which no "thank you" would be adequate.

Although Henry Gede and Jack Simons were still on the laid-up list, and the death of Si Simons' fine horse, Geronimo, was deeply felt by the drill team, President Em Boger's gelding, Rocco, was stepping lively again.

Scheduled appearances for the unit include Shrine Night at the Emeryville Ball Park, the Castro Valley Wranglers' horse show on October 1, the Columbus Day parade in San Francisco and—of course—Palm Springs.

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HORSE-SCOPE OF NEW M. H. A. MEMBERS

Seniors

ALLEN GETTEL, Oaks' pitcher, with 15 years in professional baseball, 5 years in the majors, has trained and shown gaited horses.

WILLIAM L. POSER raised on a Montana stock farm, has been railroading for the past 25 years.

MRS. GENEVIEVE S. BEALS formerly rode with the Emmett Riding Club in Hinsdale, Illinois.

AVICE SAINT returning to MHA after a long absence is now at 6th Army Headquarters at the Presidio.

MARY AND HARRY POWELL of Pinehaven Road, ride Smokey, a cow pony, and Jacinta, Morgan.

MRS. RUTH RICHARDSON, public health nurse, rides a Tennessee Walker, Fred.

WILHELMINA ROULET, with the public health nurses association, owns Simon Legree.

New members, all with Boots and Jeans include: JULIE AND KEITH NICHOLLS award winners in matched pairs; ALICE and AL PETERSON of Berkeley; WILLIAM QUINN and Pinto Gunpowder from Hayward; RUTH SMITH and Morgan, Sunday; CARL E. SMITH and Morgan, Dinah.

EDWARD STEVENS hails from Powell, Wyoming where his horse is now on pasture.

HOWARD N. YOUNG owns a snappy gelding, Major. Howard is Manager for Hotel Claremont.

Juniors

BARBARA LEE ANDERSON goes to Mills, collects coins, is interested in leather and wood work, and is devoted to her nice mare, Surprise.

TAMSYN BEVER attends Lincoln High; she proudly told us of her good gelding, Sparky.

BETTY LOU BROWN, a seventh grader in Alameda, goes in for riding and nature study; she'd like to work on a Junior committee, she says.

NAYDEEN BROWN goes to Frick Jr. High, where swimming and Girls' League activities keep her busy.

PATRICIA BROWN, in the 7th grade at Frick, enjoys the same interests as Naydeen.

MARILYN BURGER of Lafayette, a Senior at Acalanes High, likes to sew, knit and baby-sit. She has matched black-and-white pintos, Judy and Tucson. Does Tucson still have that magnificent wavy mane, Marilyn?

JOAN CHAPTON rides at Wildwood with her riding club from Bret Harte School, where she also belongs to the Girls' Athletic Association.

DOLLY DIAS, formerly Dolly Wheeler, was married to Mel Dias on June 3. Dolly loves riding, and we hope to see her among the MHA Juniors soon.

BEVERLY EVENS says her mare, Dancer, is "just a good trail horse," but a dearly-beloved one. Swimming and leather work take up the rest of Beverly's spare time.

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M. H. A. JUNIORS

KIMM HALL goes to Webster School, plays baseball and rides. He modestly says very little about himself.

JANET HILL attends Tech High, rides, likes art and sewing. How are you on horse pictures, Janet?

WILLIAM HOWER'S parents have started him riding at 3 years, so you older Juniors better look to your laurels.

PRISCILLA HUNT, who attends Bret Harte, has a lot of outdoor interests, which include baseball, hiking and riding.

ADELE INGALLS has a splendid Morgan-thoroughbred mare, June, which she uses for trail and pleasure riding with the Bret Harte School riding group. Adele is also a photography fan.

LEILA JACOBSEN collects figurines and horse pictures, plays the piano and rides. She has just entered Bret Harte School.

JOAN LAGONICK'S lovely palomino mare, Beena, takes up a lot of Joan's time when she's not attending Oakland High.

KIRBY RAY MORGAN of Lafayette goes to Modesto Junior College, where he's an agriculture major. An active horseman, he also belongs to the Concord-Mt. Diablo Trail Ride Assn.

MARY JO NICHOLS goes to Piedmont, and owns a Morgan mare, Patches.

TERRY OLDS exercises Sabu, a registered saddlebred owned by L. M. Scott.

MITCHELL PENDO goes to school in Marin, and rides during vacation.

CAROLYN PETERSON is active in athletics at Berkeley High, and says horses and dogs are her first love—but she won't say which comes first.

ROXIE POWELL has a pinto mare called Patches. Roxie goes to Technical High.

MARLENE QUAYLE goes to Lincoln School, where sports take up her after-school time.

TERRY LOU ROBINSON of Bret Harte School is active in girls' athletic clubs.

CORALIE SAVAGE of Claremont Jr. High not only rides, but plays baseball and raises dogs.

MARV WALKER, a Senior at Oakland High, rides from Big Bear. He's on a rifle team, likes camping and swimming.

PAT WILCOX has done much riding, but also goes in for all sports at Berkeley High.

KAROL WOMACK rides with Pegasus Patrol at Cressmount. She owns a 4-year-old thoroughbred mare, Our Surprise, now in training.

JANET STONE keeps her standardbred gelding, Cricket, at the Snow-Clark Stables, likes to swim, and is active in athletics at Bancroft Jr. High, where she's in the high 9th grade.

JUNIORS IN ACTION

On September 22, the MHA Junior Drill entertained with square and social dancing at La Fiesta with 40 attending.

At the Concord Show Juniors won first award for color guard. Bernie Cummings placed 5th in western equitation.

Celebrating his birthday, Ronnie Dunningway entertained the juniors on a hayride and dance.

Best luck to the Relay Team at Palm Springs!

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400 STARS

Memories of the generous hospitality of Helen and George Daniels were revived at the MHA meeting on September 14, when movies of George Daniels' Trail Ride and Field Day were shown to a packed theatre at the Sun Electric Company.

Two hundred two-legged and two hundred four-legged stars provided a professional appearing cast in the glorious scenery of the hill area. Everyone found everyone else in the pictures but the hit of the evening was when the horses found the photographer!

Stillman W. Robinson of the Federal Drug Company is to be congratulated on producing and assembling a trail movie of worth. To him and to his assistant photographers George Daniels and George Keefer—"Thank You."

—And who served the refreshments? Bride and Groom Vogel, of course.

—And forever, our thanks to George and Helen Daniels.

Vern Chappell

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"SCATHED," SAYS ARMSTRONG, IN NIGHTMARE ACCIDENT

Leo Armstrong, President of San Pablo Horsemen and currently candidate from Contra Costa Co. for the State Assembly, is recovering from barbed wire cuts which nearly resulted in the loss of a leg.

On the evening of Sept. 7th, Armstrong turned his mare out in a new pasture. The animal, which had been standing in a box stall without exercise for some time, tore through the barbed wire fence, turned and became entangled. Fearing for her safety, Leo approached with a halter, whereupon the excited mare bolted past him. The loosened wire caught Armstrong's left leg and wrapped around him, tearing muscles, cords and nerves. Bleeding severely but still on his feet, he managed to attract the attention of men in the nearby San Pablo Fire House, who brought first aid.

After an hour and a half in surgery, eight days in the hospital and two weeks in a cast, Leo is now managing to get about on crutches. Asked what this set-back might do to his political campaign, he didn't know.

"But I'm exceedingly grateful to Dr. LeDonne, who came a long way, and at night, to take care of my mare. We think she may come through with only minor scars."

MEMBERSHIP

Dec. 1947 675

Dec. 1948 810

Dec. 1949 692

SEPT. 1950 801

DEC. 1950 1000 ???

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FOOTPRINTERS TAKE ACTION ON UNFAIR TARIFFS

Mounted Unit of Oakland Chapter 7, International Footprinters is doing something about unfair transportation costs for horses and equipment. Sergeant Martin, State Chairman of the Horse Tariff committee is presenting a resolution at the CSHA at Palm Springs asking that a just and equal tariff be determined.

The Oakland Unit has put up a large sum of money to advertise the resolution and would appreciate donations to help on this campaign. The committee on tariff is a permanent committee and will remain in operation even though elections may change CSHA officers.

Monty Russell, Dow Puterbaugh, Louis Barrious took part in pole bending events at Concord. The mounted unit took firsts in best uniformed and largest group. A large delegation is Palm Spring-ing.

SI AND GERONIMO

The MHA shares in the sorrow of Vice-President Si Simons, who lost his good gelding, Geronimo, last month.

Geronimo (PHS 84), often a blue ribbon winner, was well known at local horse shows in pinto, trails, and pleasure classes.

The horse made his last appearance during a Shrine Mounted Patrol drill in Winemucca over Labor Day. During the drill, he picked up a large nail, which was removed from his foot. An anti-tetanus shot and penicillin were administered at once. Although lame, he made the return trip without apparent difficulty. His death two days later was attributed to heart failure.

M. H. A. MEMBERS ON SUMMER VACATIONS

Mrs. Edson Adams, Donzel Watson, and Mrs. Harry Fair enjoyed a 15-day pack trip in the King's River country. Starting from Cedar Grove, they rode through the high country crossing Mather and Pinchot passes.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Denton spent their vacation at the Circle M Ranch on the Metolius and enjoyed a pack trip in the Three-Fingered Jack mountain area.

George Warner, manager of Don and Anne's rode in the Dardanelles area of Sonora Pass and reports good fishing.

Mary Lou Hutton Hansen and Jerald Hansen began the roping education of Jerald Christian Hansen (aged 7 weeks). He showed considerable interest in Pop's roping technique.

Elsa and Gus Himmelman visited their daughter in Whittier; the Chowns are transcontinentaling in a new car.

The Bill Pattens hope to return from South Dakota in time to attend the Palm Springs Convention; Harold Knudsen and horse explored the Carmel area.

Lorenza and Virg Stefani and Mrs. Lena Conner are back from vacation and have re-opened the Skyline Ranch Kitchen — open Wednesday through Sunday from 8:30 a. m. to 8 p. m.

Es Norris vacationed at Lake Creek Lodge in Oregon where she rode the owner's Arab, Kadil.

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THROUGH THE OPEN GATE

WAGON WHEEL RANCH

A ride of interest to MHA'ers was taken by members of the Wagon Wheel Ranch. Sending bedding rolls and food by truck, the riders traveled to the Lake Anza area in Tilden Regional Park, where they camped. A barbecued dinner, guitar music around the campfire, and two days of riding in the park made an enjoyable outing.

Ted Talstram took seven horses to the Feather River country. During Ted's six weeks' absence, Margaret Rukavina did a fine job as ramrod at Wagon Wheel. A big pre-winter cleanup is going on at the ranch.

BOOTS AND JEANS

The annual election of officers was held on September 6 with these results: President, Harold Cummings; Treasurer, Ted Hofer; Recording Secretary, Mabel Hower; Reporter, Dutch Cumminings.

Entertainment for the coming year will be handled by Velma Charette. Lloyd De Rusha was re-elected Bouncer but to date his Bouncer activities have been nil.

While drills for the winter have been suspended, the entire membership of Boots and Jeans have signed up with the Disaster Committee to be available wherever and whenever needed.

The group regrets that it could not accept a Palm Springs invitation but looks forward to grand right and left-ing at Fresno in the spring.

SNOW-CLARK STABLES

Proud of trophies won at San Leandro during the summer are: Jane Stone, Marlene Fate, Mary Campbell, Barbara McDonald, Nancy Romwall.

The Clifford Bundys and their two saddlebreds, Joan Lagonick and Palomino Beena, are new boarders.

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LEW HELMS STABLES

Burl Tatum has recently become half-owner and manager of the Lew Helms Stables. Hailing from Burbank, Burl and Lillian Tatum lost no time in joining MHA.

New boarders are: John Preston, Purchasing Agent for the City of Piedmont, and his grey hunter, Shadow Box; Mr. and Mrs. Lou Connors of San Francisco.

Under the new management, the stables are exclusively for boarders. Summer programs included a series of barbecues and evening rides.

LARI-ETTES

The Lari-ettes are packing their best western outfits and gear in preparation for the State Horsemen's Convention at Palm Springs. Margaret Rukavina, Deane and Norma Burton are the blue ribbon winners; Margaret Talstram and Margaret Rukavina are delegates. Twelve members will attend the convention.

B. - S. STABLES

Jack Richards reports a change of management for the B.-S. Stables. Mr. Welch of Hayward will now manage these stables.

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OAKLAND RIDING ACADEMY

Bob Lorimer is looking for a broom polo team to challenge. Games are held at Oakland every Friday and competition is welcomed.

Now stabling horses at the Oakland are: Allen Gettel, Oaks' pitcher, Beverly Evens, Stan Lore, President Shipwrights and Boat Builders Union, Stan Lore, Jr. (aged 4).

Carol Nelsen purchased Palomar from Frank Colbourn, Jr., recently, and Lou Isbell bought Sunset from Bob Lorimer.

Following the October 8 and 15 gymkhanas of neighboring stables, the newly constructed barbecue pit at Oakland will be tested.

PINTO RANCH

Two sturdy members, Vern Chappel and Tommy Tallarico, braved the recent heat wave and entered the Mt. Diablo Trail Ride with Vern winning second place.

Louis Albert's mare presented a September colt—Champagne is the name.

Marcia Philpotts, Roy MacArthur, Jack Castro, Howard La Rose, Mr. and Mrs. Beverly Adams now board their horses at Pinto. A barbecue and night ride is held every other Friday at Pinto.

While Frank Accinelli is recovering from a pulled ligament, Warren Allen is taking over the blacksmith shop open on Mondays and Saturdays.

NEW GROUP ORGANIZED

Saddle Bags, a newly organized group of women riders at Cressmount, has had a busy summer. Meeting on Thursdays, they ride on the campus trails, have an equitation or jumping lesson in the ring. Following these events, the group enjoys luncheon together.

A recent Guest Ride included the following: Mesdames Arthur Carlson, Kenneth Eberts, Robert Eschen, Ed Peacock, Janet Crosby, W. H. Ratcliff, Mr. Ronald Frankis and Dr. Eleanor Nelson. Miss Cornelia Cress is instructor and advisor for the group.

UPSON DOWNS

Upton Downs members have been meeting each Tuesday night under the instruction and direction of Earl Hansen.

Following a trail ride, Jack and Lorraine Harris provided a supper of chili beans, green salad, hot dogs, coffee, and watermelon. Those on hand for supper were: Lorraine and Jack Harris, Gia Abel, Dorothea Wolbold, Margaret Johnson, Julie Laub, Earl Hansen, Mary Gale, Windy, Michael, Barbara and Jack Smith, Peggy Day, Ethel and Jack Totten.

Dorothea Wolbold now has her own horse, Tecquila, chestnut mare formerly owned by Bucky Johnstone.

Fuel Bills High?



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SATURDAY, DEC. 2 - ANNUAL DINNER
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Dancing 9 - 1



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